

(b) the details of the new units joined and which have withdrawn upto March, 1997; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (c) Exports by units in Export Processing Zones during the Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plans were of the order of Rs. 2266.02 crores and Rs. 13,563.88 crores, respectively. As on 31.3.1997, 513 units were in operation in the EPZs while 160 units had debonded/withdrawn from the scheme. The policy itself provides for debonding of unit on their inability to achieve export obligation prescribed or other requirements of the scheme, due to various factors, including obsolescence of technology, failure of marketing arrangements, withdrawal of foreign collaborators, financial and managerial problems, recession in the international market etc.

Upgradation of PSUs

600. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Public Sector Undertakings have approached the Competent Authority for upgradation of their PUs as per the guidelines with necessary justification during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the name of Public Sector Undertakings upgraded during the last three years and proposals pending as on March 31, 1997 with the decision making authority alongwith reasons for pendency;

(d) whether the Government propose to streamline the operation with clarity, efficiency and transparency in the decision making process; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) It is the administrative Ministries concerned with the PSUs who approach the competent authority for upgradation of PSUs under their administrative control. During the last 3 years proposals relating to upgradation of 7 PSUs have been received in the Deptt. of Public Enterprises which is the nodal Department for this purpose. The details are given in the Statement.

(c) Goa Shipyard Limited was upgraded during the period. A proposal relating to upgradation of the Dredging Corporation of India Ltd. was pending with the decision making authority as on 31.3.97. This has been disposed of in July, 97.

(d) and (e) A well defined and established process already exists for this purpose.

Statement

Names of PSUs in respect of which proposals for ungradations were received during the last three years.

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1. National Fertilizers Limited
 2. Goa Shipyard Limited
 3. Mazagon Dock Limited
 4. Dredging Corporation of India Limited
 5. India Tourism Development Corporation Limited
 6. Central Cottage Industries Corpn. of India
 7. Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limit
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Foreign Visit of Chief Minister, Karnataka

601. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the countries visited by Ministers of Karnataka including the Chief Minister from January, 1996 to June, 1997;

(b) the number of times each Minister had gone abroad;

(c) the details of foreign exchange released for the purpose by the Union Government during the above period;

(d) the amount released by the Union Government by way of foreign exchange for medical treatment of the Ministers of Karnataka including the Chief Minister during the above period; and

(e) the number of foreign tours conducted by the Ministers of Karnataka during the above period without the permission of the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Outstanding Loans Against State Governments

602. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount payable to various nationalised banks have been outstanding against some State Governments;

(b) if so, the details of such States against which the amount has been outstanding, as on date, the date from which outstanding and the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government for the recovery of the said amount;

(d) whether some nationalised banks have filed cases in courts for recovery of the said amount; and

(e) if so, the latest position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be furnished.

Primary Capital Market

603. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the primary capital market has been sloughing for a quite long time;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to bring buoyancy in the primary capital market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) During the current year, there has been a reduction in the number of companies accessing the primary market which, among other things is attributable to the general downtrend in the secondary market and the stricter entry norms for Companies introduced by SEBI. Stricter entry norms would ensure only good companies come into the market.

(c) Important steps taken to revive the market include:

(i) SEBI has reduced the minimum application size to Rs. 2000 from Rs. 5000 to encourage small investors to subscribe to new issues;

(ii) Listing of debt security without listing of equity has been allowed;

(iii) Exchanges has been allowed to expand their trading terminals to locations outside their place of operations; and

(iv) The first depository, National Securities Depository Limited has been set up for scripless trading in securities.

World Bank Loan to Coal Sector

604. KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank propose to provide a big amount of loan for the rehabilitation schemes of the coal sector of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said loan is likely to be received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) World Bank has approved a loan of US \$ 530 million for Coal Sector Rehabilitation Project of Coal India Limited.

(b) 24 mines in 5 subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited namely Central Coalfields Limited, Mahanadi Coalfields Limited, Northern Coalfields Limited, South Eastern Coalfields Limited and Western Coalfields Limited will be the beneficiaries under CSRP. The loan is mainly for maintaining coal production in 15 existing coal mines by replacing outlived equipment and for providing equipment for 9 new and expansion projects to augment coal production.

(c) The receipt of loan is dependent on conclusion of loan agreement with Japan Eximbank the date for which is yet to be intimated by them. The Eximbank's commitment is for US \$ 530 Million in addition to World Bank's loan for a like amount.

Foreign Collaboration

605. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure followed by the Government to ensure that exports do take place, as per commitments made by the companies while applying for foreign collaboration;

(b) if so, the names of companies which have failed in their export commitments during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken by Government against those companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) For this purpose the exporters are required to file Legal Undertakings binding themselves to fulfil the export commitments.

(b) A list in this regard is placed on the Table of the House as a Statement.

(c) The relevant cases have been referred to the Enforcement Division for penal action.